

Atty. Dkt. No. 035451-0126 (3623.Palm)

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Currently Amended) The handheld computing device of Claim 47, wherein the predetermined communications connection is effectuated by dialing a predetermined telephone number.
3. (Currently Amended) The handheld computing device of Claim 27, wherein the predetermined number is the number for an emergency service.
4. (Currently Amended) The handheld computing device of Claim 47, wherein the user must depress and hold the two or more input keys for greater than one second to effectuate the predetermined communications connection.
5. (Currently Amended) The handheld computing device of Claim 47, wherein the user must depress four input keys simultaneously to effectuate the predetermined communications connection.
6. (Currently Amended) The handheld computing device of Claim 1, A handheld computing device, comprising:
a housing;
a processor supported by the housing;
a wireless telephony device coupled to the processor;
a display having a graphical user interface coupled to the processor; and
a plurality of input keys.

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wherein the device is programmed to effectuate a predetermined communications connection when a user depresses two or more input keys simultaneously and wherein the device effectuates the predetermined communications connection regardless of whether the wireless telephony device is powered on.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The handheld computing device of Claim 1, A handheld computing device, comprising:~~

a housing;

a processor supported by the housing;

a wireless telephony device coupled to the processor;

a display having a graphical user interface coupled to the processor; and

a plurality of input keys,

wherein the device is programmed to effectuate a predetermined communications connection when a user depresses two or more input keys simultaneously and wherein the device effectuates the predetermined communications connection regardless the state of the software operating on the device.

8. (Currently Amended) The handheld computing device of Claim 3~~7~~, wherein the device calls the emergency service by dialing 9-1-1.

9. (Currently Amended) The handheld computing device of Claim 3~~7~~, wherein the device calls the emergency service by dialing 1-1-2.

10. (Currently Amended) The handheld computing device of Claim 4~~7~~, further comprising:

a plurality of navigation buttons, wherein the device is programmed to effectuate the predetermined communications connection when a combination of the navigation buttons and the input keys is depressed simultaneously.

11. (Cancelled).

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12. (Currently Amended) The method of making an emergency request of Claim 4-14, further comprising the step of:

activating the two or more input devices for at least one second.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of making an emergency request of Claim 4-14, wherein the user must activate four input devices simultaneously to effectuate the communications channel to the emergency service.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of making an emergency request of Claim 4-14, A method of making an emergency request, comprising the steps of:

providing a handheld computing device having wireless communication capability and having two or more user input devices; and

activating two or more user input devices simultaneously, whereby the device effectuates a communications channel to an emergency service,

wherein the device effectuates the communications channel to the emergency service regardless of the state of any software operating on the device.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of making an emergency request of Claim 4-14, wherein the communications channel is a telephone connection to an emergency service made by dialing 9-1-1.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of making an emergency request of Claim 4-14, wherein the communications channel is a telephone connection to an emergency service made by dialing 1-1-2.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of placing an emergency call of Claim 4-14, further comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of navigation buttons and user input keys, wherein the device is programmed to effectuate the communications channel when a combination of the navigation buttons and the user input devices are depressed simultaneously.

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18. (Original) A method of programming a handheld computer having a hardware abstraction layer, an operating system, and wireless communication capability to call an emergency service in response to user input, comprising the steps of:

programming the hardware abstraction layer to direct the operating system to dial the emergency service when a user activates a certain combination of input devices simultaneously.

19. (Original) The method of programming a handheld computer of Claim 18, wherein the certain combination of input devices includes the depression of four keys.

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20. (Original) The method of programming a handheld computer of Claim 18, wherein the user must activate the certain combination of input devices for greater than one second.

21. (Currently Amended) A handheld computer, comprising:
a processor;
a display including a touch screen coupled to the processor;
a plurality of user input keys coupled to the processor;
a wireless telephony device coupled to the processor; and
an operating system running on the processor;
whereby the operating system is configured to call an emergency service when two or more user input keys are pressed simultaneously,

wherein the device effectuates the communications channel to the emergency service regardless of the state of any software operating on the device.

22. (Original) The handheld computer of Claim 21, wherein the handheld computer does not include a mechanical telephone keypad.

23. (Original) The handheld computer of Claim 21, wherein the emergency service is called when four input keys are depressed simultaneously.

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24. (Original) The handheld computer of Claim 23, wherein the input keys must be depressed simultaneously for at least one second.